

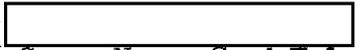
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12 May 1966

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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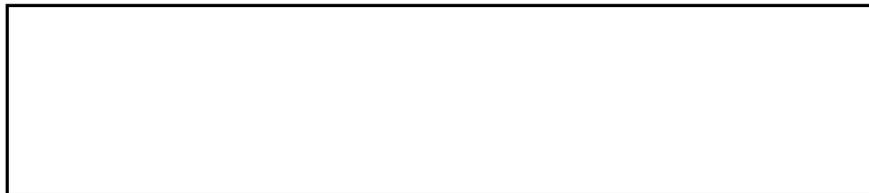
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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Dominican Republic: Anti-Bosch forces may have reached an agreement to form a coalition behind one candidate for the presidency.

One of the principal negotiators for a stop-Bosch movement, Luis Amiama, said on 10 May that third-ranking presidential candidate Rafael Bonnelly had come to terms with Joaquin Balaguer, the Reformist Party candidate. Presumably Bonnelly will withdraw in favor of Balaguer. Not all of Bonnelly's supporters would ^{favor} form such a pact. Some would probably abstain or switch their vote to Bosch.

[Bosch told followers at a meeting last week that he considers it vital to keep Bonnelly in the race, A division of the center-to-right vote between Balaguer and Bonnelly would appreciably increase the chances of a victory for Bosch and his Dominican Revolutionary Party in the 1 June elections.]

[Alternative overtures to persuade Bonnelly to maintain his candidacy were discussed during the meeting. They included appeals to his pride, exploitation of his personal dislike of Balaguer, and offers of an influential position in a Bosch government or money.]

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Ecuador: The possible early return from exile of ex-President Velasco Ibarra could be the catalyst for the ouster of the provisional Yerovi government and an outbreak of violence.

Velasco has informed his followers that he will soon return, and Ecuador is alive with speculation that this may occur on the anniversary of the 28 May 1944 revolution which brought Velasco to power the second time. Velasquistas have scheduled a national convention for the 28th. The government has indicated Velasco is free to return.

Velasco, who is 73, reportedly is physically able to try for a fifth entry to the palace. He is well aware of Yerovi's extreme political weakness, and is certain that the constituent assembly Yerovi plans for September will try to bar him from office for good.

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Opportunistic former defense minister General Coba reportedly has been in contact with Velasquistas and has offered to get them the support of some battalions. On the other hand, many units oppose Velasco and probably would attempt a counter coup to forestall him, despite reluctance of the military to resume political action.

[The US ambassador believes that the charismatic Velasco could land at the airport, pick up a crowd as he advanced on the palace, and displace Yerovi without resistance. Velasco would have the support of Communists, whom he has used in the past for his own purposes. The ambassador warns that this time they might well be the masters.]

Adding to the disturbing atmosphere in Quito was the return to that city yesterday of ousted President Arosemena.

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